(iv) Implementation of 165 demonstrative recharge projects in various States under the Central Sector scheme on "Study of recharge to ground water" in IX Plan.

(v) Implementation of a demonstrative scheme on "Rain Water Harvesting and Artificial Recharge to Ground Water" by the CGWB in identified areas of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

(vi) Implementation of 75 artificial recharge and rainwater harvesting studies by CGWB during XI Plan.

(vii) Constitution of the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) under Section 3(3) of the Environment (Protection) Act of 1986, notification of 43 Over-exploited areas in the country for regulation of ground water development and management and notification of 65 Over-exploited areas in various States for registration of ground water abstraction structures.

(viii) Direction issued by the CGWA to Chief Secretaries of the concerned States to take all measures to adopt artificial recharge to ground water/ promote rain water harvesting in all the Over-Exploited areas falling under their jurisdiction and ensure inclusion of roof top rain water harvesting in the Building Bye-Laws.

(ix) Implementation of pilot scheme on "Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies" was taken up in the X Five Year Plan at the cost of Rs. 300 crore. Under the scheme, sanctions were issued to concerned 1098 water bodies for 26 districts in 15 States. For the XI Plan, a scheme on renovation of water bodies with external assistance has been announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech for 2007-08.

Digging of wells in Vidarbha region

†440. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wells proposed to be dug in the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra for irrigation under the Prime Minister's special package scheme;

(b) the number of wells dug in the Vidarbha region till now;

(c) the number of wells dug for the purpose of irrigation and for drinking water out of these wells; and

(d) by when this entire project will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) (a) Government of Maharashtra have reported that there is no programme of digging wells under Prime Minister's Special package for Vidarbha. However, under the package provision has been made for 557 minor irrigation schemes.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.